

*The Asiatic species of ORMOSIA.*—By D. PRAIN.

[Read 1st June, 1904.]

In the *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*, vol. lxi, pt. 2, pp. 175, *et seq.*, a list of the Asiatic species of the genus *Ormosia* was published. The list included 22 species. Since 1900, when the list appeared, further material has been communicated from S. China. This material includes examples in flower of one species, *O. yunnanensis*, of which previously only the fruits were known; it also includes material both in flower and in fruit of a distinct new species that has been described by Mr. S. T. Dunn, in the *Journal of the Linnean Society*, under the name *O. striata*. More recently Mr. F. B. Manson, of the Indian Forest Department, has sent from Tavoy a specimen representing yet another species. As it is desirable, therefore, to bring the census of the genus, published four years ago, up to date, the necessary notes, references and descriptions are now offered to the Society.

The species reported from Tavoy is a member of the group *Macrodisca*, within the section *Ormosia* proper, and its place in the genus, most in accordance with the arrangement adopted in the previous paper, will be within the group mentioned, and immediately before 7. *Ormosia travancorica* Bedd. The new Chinese species is compared by Mr. Dunn with *O. gracilis* Prain, and in general appearance this is the species that it most resembles. But while it is undoubtedly, like *O. gracilis*, a member of the section *Ormosia* proper, the structure of the fruit and the size of the seeds are repugnant to its inclusion in the group *Macrodisca* to which *O. gracilis* belongs. As a matter of fact the fruit does not accord with the characters of any of the three sub-sections or groups that it has been found advisable to recognise within the section *Ormosia*, but shows that *O. striata* probably deserves to be considered the type of a distinct sub-section, the "Striatæ," connecting *Macrodisca* with *Amacrotopis*, to be placed alongside and on an equal footing with the sub-section *Layia*, with which last it agrees in having the valves thickly woody and the seeds small, but from which it differs in not having the pods septate.

1. *ORMOSIA ROBUSTA* Bak.

Add to localities hitherto recorded:—

LOWER BURMA: Tavoy, *Shaik Muqim!*

6b. *ORMOSIA TAVOYANA* Prain; leaflets 7—9, oblong, dull pale-green, distinctly stalked; flowers in axillary racemes, pedicels very short; pod large, ovate-oblong, with thick valves rounded on the back.

BURMA: Tenasserim; Tavoy, *Manson's Collector* n. 301!

A tree, with thickish, dark-brown, glabrous branches. *Leaflets* thickly chartaceous and rigid in texture, pale-green, quite glabrous on both surfaces, ovate-oblong, acute, terminal rather the largest, 3·5—4·5 in. long, 1·5—2 in. wide, main-nerves about 5 pairs curving forwards and rather prominent beneath; petiolules ·25 in. long, and main-rachis 6—8 in. long, quite glabrous. *Peduncle* glabrous, 2·5 in. long, stout as is the rachis of the raceme 1·5 in. long, which is glabrous or slightly puberulous towards the apex. *Flowers* not seen. *Fruiting pedicel* stout, ·25 in. long. *Pod* umber-brown, 2·75 in long, 1·8 in. wide, ·75 in. thick. *Seed* oblong, ·75 in. long, scarlet.

This species most resembles *O. travancorica* but has larger, more acute leaflets and a larger pod.

The Burmese name is *Talaing-zin*.

¶ STRIATE. [Sub-sect. nov. post ¶ LAYIAM ponenda.]. Pods with thickly woody valves, not septate between the small, often solitary seeds.

13b. *ORMOSIA STRIATA* Dunn, *Journ. Linn. Soc.* xxxv. 492, (1903).

CHINA: Yunnan; mountains in Western Szemao, 4000—5000 ft., *Henry* 11886! 12843; 12979!

The outer layer of the valves of the pod is firmly coriaceous, the endocarp is woody and subcrustaceous; the apex like the base is oblique and projects as a straight or slightly uncinatè beak at right angles to the long axis of the pod and diagonally opposite to the stipe.

15. *ORMOSIA YUNNANENSIS* Prain, *Journ. As. Soc. Beng.* lxi. 2, 183.

Add to description:—*Corolla* white. *Stamens* 10, all fertile, exerted; anthers oblong, versatile.

Add to citation of gatherings from CHINA:—Yunnan; mountains to the south of Szemao, 5000 ft., *Henry* 12885!